

**VILLAGE OF QUESTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2022
VILLAGE OF QUESTA COUNCIL CHAMBERS
6:00PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR JOHN ANTHONY ORTEGA

Mayor John Anthony Ortega called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Clerk Valerie Vigil called roll where a quorum was present.

Governing Body Present

Mayor John Anthony Ortega
Councilman Jason Gonzalez
Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales
Councilwoman Louise Gallegos
Councilman Brent Jaramillo

Governing Body Absent

Others present were:

Valerie Vigil, CPO
Karen Shannon, VOQ Finance Director
Dominic Martinez, Administrator
Jake Lafore, Project Manager
Sharon Nicholson, Library Director
Dylan Crabb, Del Rio News
Luis Hernandez
Dan Darnell, Waste Management
William Borges
Lynn Skall
Patty Sunday
Kelly Mehtren
Scott Sutton

Those present virtually were:

Chris DeFillippo, Robles, Rael & Anaya
Laura Vallejos
Claire Cote
Geoffrey Plant
Jason Rael
Erika Rael

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Patty Sunday led the pledge

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Second: Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales

To approve the agenda as presented. Majority voted yes. Motion carried.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Regular Meeting July 26, 2022

Councilwoman Gallegos presented some typographical errors to Clerk Valerie Vigil to be edited.

Edits were made and changed.

Motion: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Second: Councilman Jason Gonzalez

Approval of the agenda with edits. Majority voted yes. Motion carried.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS - *(It is the policy of the Governing Body to accept public comment. Because your issue is not on the agenda the Governing Body cannot respond immediately but may direct staff to address issues at a future Council Meeting. Public comments are limited to a maximum of three minutes.)*

Public Comment open at 06:04 pm

No Public Comments were made

VII. PRESENTATIONS

- A)** Patty Sunday & Kelly Mehtren presented on the NFL Flag Football and the opportunity presented for youth in Questa and surrounding areas to participate in the program. Ages 6-14 can participate including a registration fee estimating from \$110-\$135. The NFL Flag Football has a program for families to be able to qualify, to reduce the cost to \$10 per child. Each team can choose their own NFL team that they can represent. Councilor Gonzales asked about a cap on children; there is no cap on how many children can attend the camp. The camp would like to start in the fall time, whereas a day will be set for the community and surrounding areas to ask questions and hear about the opportunities the NFL Flag Football league can offer. The duration of the camp is 5 weeks. Ms. Mehtren stated that games and practices are 45 minutes apart to be considerate of time for families. Councilor Gallegos asked how many leagues (per location) would be organized; Ms. Mehtren stated at this point they are still deciding where it would be most beneficial for children and families. Mayor Ortega commented about the excitement between the Questa school board president, Questa superintendent, and Mayor Ortega to have such an exciting opportunity for the Village of Questa
- B)** Scott Sutton and Laura Vallejos, Skateboard Committee presenting on the designs and possibilities of how we can continue to make the Skate Park a reality. Mr. Sutton presented some pictures that were shared on the meeting of different skateparks and their amenities. Scott Sutton suggested a design with a skatepark, and amphitheater included all in one for fiestas, events, and general community events. Mr. Sutton spoke about the distance of the playground and the Library/Youth Center. He stated he feels that they should be closer to the buildings to ensure safety and closeness to the Library and the Youth Center. He discussed about making a master plan for a skatepark, playground closer to the Library, amphitheater, vegetation, etc. Councilor Gonzalez asked about the used skate park equipment that is currently housed at the purposed skatepark area. Mr. Sutton stated perhaps an indoor skatepark would be an idea to think about, the business park, or refurbishing the basketball court near the Library to place it there. Councilor Gallegos thanked Mr. Sutton for his presentation and his ideas. Mayor Ortega asked for a timeline for a design for the upcoming grant. Mr. Sutton recapped his presentation and will be available for any future discussion.

VIII. ACTION ITEM

A) Discussion, Consideration, & Decision- Waste Management Rate Increase; Dan Darnell and Administrator Martinez presented about the rate increase in The Village of Questa Solid Waste. Due to the increase in gasoline and diesel Waste Management has also has to increase their rates as well. An increase of 10.85% from 3.6%. The increase will be the responsibility of the customer. The average bill for each customer in the Village of Questa is an estimate of \$18.41, with the rate increase it will raise each bill approximately by \$2.00. This will be in effect August 1, 2022 and a message will be printed on the upcoming water and sewer bill to communicate the increase with the customers.

Motion: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Second: Councilman Jason Gonzalez

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Jason Gonzalez	YES
Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales	YES

IX. FINANCES

A) Discussion, Consideration, & Decision- local BAR FY2022 Q4 2, Karen Quintana Shannon Finance Director presented the last Bar that was presented at the last meeting was approve by FDA. She presented the BAR documents to the Council for review and approval. Motion to approve.

Motion: Councilman Jason Gonzalez

Second: Councilman Brent Jaramillo

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Jason Gonzalez	YES
Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales	YES

B) Discussion, Consideration, & Decision- Resolution No. 2022-19 for FY2022 Final Quarter Financial Report Resolution, Karen Quintana Shannon Finance Director included documentation to the council to review. Motion to approve final quarter report to submit to DFA.

Motion: Councilman Louise Gallegos

Second: Councilman Jason Gonzalez

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Jason Gonzalez	YES
Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales	YES

C) Discussion, Consideration, & Decision- Resolution No. 2022-20 for FY2022-2023 Budget Adoption, Karen Quintana Shannon Finance Director included documentation to the council to review. EMS fund

was expecting to receive revenue for the fire assistant, but it has not arrived for the budget but was included as a revenue source for FY 2022. Per Mayor Ortega Fire Assistant Revenue is expected to add \$55,000 and \$63,000 plus the increase of \$50,000 from Taos County. Law Enforcement budget is allocated for one Police Chief, Two Officers, and County Police payment. LPF takes care of equipment and vehicles and was increased from \$20,000 to \$45,000. Not to be used for salaries only for equipment. Councilor Gonzalez brought up the subject of increasing the water rate. Counter friendly amendment from Councilor Jaramillo to approve the budget with the condition to look at the rate study for water and solid waste rates as well within the next 8 weeks. Councilor Gallegos stated the last time that they spoke about this, there was a discussion of it being done in the fall. Discussion between Councilors for an agreement. Agreement made to make into effect on January 1st, 2023 with public hearing in between. No approval can be made at this time. Motion to approve Finances.

Motion: Councilman Jason Gonzalez

Second: Councilman Brent Jaramillo

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Jason Gonzalez	YES
Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales	YES

X. DICUSSION ITEMS

- A) ICIP, Mayor Ortega presented on the importance of the ICIP. Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP). The ICIP needs to be submitted to the DFA every year. ICIP is where we get most of our Capital Outlay, Statewide or Federal. It is a list of items that the Village would to accomplish or get funding for over the next 5 years. Mayor Ortega announced the newest employee for the Village of Questa, Jacob Lafore as Project Manager. Due date for the ICIP is August 19, 2022. Councilors agreed to look over the list, conduct their suggestions, and will be presented at the next Council Meeting on August 9, 2022.

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Jason Gonzalez	YES
Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales	YES

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - *(The Governing Body may convene into Executive Session at this time pursuant to the NM Open Meetings Act NMSA 1978 10-15-1)*

Motion: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Second: Councilman Jason Gonzalez

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Jason Gonzalez	YES
Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales	YES

Entered in at 7:29 pm Out at 8:02 pm

A) Village Administrator for Executive Session

Motion: Councilman Brent Jaramillo

Second: Councilwoman Louise Gallegos

Roll Call:

Councilwoman Louise Gallegos	YES
Councilman Brent P. Jaramillo	YES
Councilman Jason Gonzalez	YES
Councilwoman Katrina Gonzales	YES

XII. MATTERS FROM VILLAGE ATTORNEY- Mr. DeFillippo Village Attorney presented on the walkthrough of the Mine Site from Friday July 22, 2022. The Mine will make accommodations for the Water Treatment walkthrough for the near future. The walkthrough of La Cienega was also presented. The Village of Questa has \$60,000 from Chevron, decisions need to be made to spend that money in the best way for the property.

XIII. MATTERS FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR

A) Concerns and/or Announcements

- Questa Superintendent about the Well that is half and half on School property and VOQ property. Administrator Martinez stated he purposed that each entities Attorneys have contact and discuss an agreement.
- Presented the BID outcome for the Red River Restoration Project Contractor that will be presented by CPO Valerie Vigil at the next meeting.
- Police Department Audit has been done, waiting on report and documentation of any and all findings.

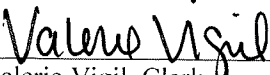
XIV. MATTERS FROM THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS

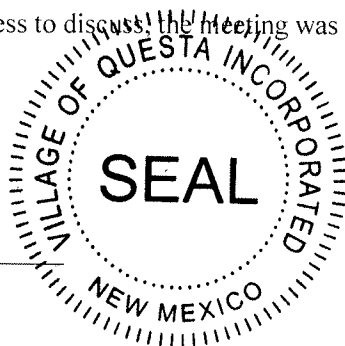
Councilor Gallegos asked about possibly on "Clean Up" days if we can possibly have a "Shred" Day for the Community. Councilor Gallegos asked that the Planning and Zoning Committee not be put on the back burner and be revisited. Councilor Jaramillo presented about the NCRTD Strategic Plan meeting on August 3, 2022 from 3:00-4:30 pm at the Council Chambers in Taos. Mayor Ortega presented on the mobile homes located at La Cienega being used for Taos Behavioral and Inspire Daycare. Unfortunately, they are in bad shape and will need an assessment to ensure they are still good to use. La Cienega School buildings are in bad shape and a decision needs to be made as to what should be done.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

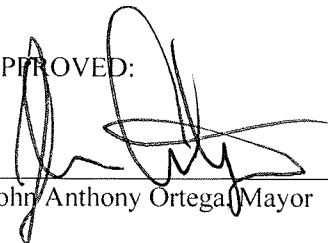
There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

ATTEST:


Valerie Vigil, Clerk



APPROVED:


John Anthony Ortega, Mayor